The Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice joins the Institute for the Study of Social Change, the National Center on Crime and Delinquency, the Center for Latino Policy Research, and the Berkeley Diversity Research Initiative in sponsoring a symposium on “Law’s Violence, Ruptured Community: Justice and Healing for Migrant Youth” on March 8-9, 2007 at Boalt Hall. Luis Rodriguez will inaugurate the symposium with the Raven Lecture on “Hearts & Hands: Creating Community in Violent Times” at 4:00 pm on March 8, 2007 in Booth Auditorium. Jeff Adachi, San Francisco Public Defender, will respond to his remarks. The Robert D. and Leslie-Kay Raven Chair in Access to Justice as well as the annual Raven Lecture were endowed by Morrison & Foerster in recognition of the late Robert D. Raven’s service to the bar and the University.

Luis Rodriguez is one of the leading Chicano writers in the country with ten nationally published books including his 1993 memoir of gang life, Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A. An international best seller that won the Carl Sanburg Literary Award, a Chicago Sun-Times Book Award, and was designated a New York Times Notable Book, the memoir was written as a cautionary tale for Luis’ then fifteen year old son Ramiro, who had joined a Chicago gang. Rodriguez is also one of the founders of Youth Struggling for Survival, a Chicago-based not-for-profit community group.

On Friday, March 9, the symposium will continue with a full day of discussion and debate on the pernicious role that the law can play in encouraging violence in immigrant communities and the capacity of the law and other social institutions to prevent violence and promote healing. Panel topics will include “Creating Deviance: The Construct of ‘Youth Violence’” with Barry Krisberg, Ramiro Martinez, Jr., Marlene Sanchez, and Khatarya Um; “Looking Beneath the Surface: Diversity within Immigrant Communities” with Bill Ong Hing, Thao Le, Nane Alejandrez, and Patricia Loya; “Youth Violence in the Media” with Lori Dorfman. Marlene Sanchez, Penina Taesali, and Gianna Tran; “Reclaiming our Communities: Forging Multiracial Alliances” with Jeff Fagan, Victor Rios, Gianna Tran, and Howard Pinderhughes; and “Moving Forward: Strategies for Success” with James Bell, Michelle Hoover, Isabelle Mussard, and Emily Ozer.

Diane Chin to Join the Henderson Center as Associate Director

We are delighted to announce that Diane T. Chin, preeminent public interest lawyer and founding Director of Stanford Law School’s Center for Public Service and Public Interest Law, is joining us as Associate Director on March 5. Diane is the ideal person to help lead the growth and expansion of the Henderson Center.

At Stanford Law School Chin had spectacular success in developing and managing programs that inspired students to choose public interest careers. Prior to her work at Stanford, Chin served as executive director of Chinese for Affirmative Action and led its innovative work on affirmative action, public education, voting rights, racial profiling, and multi-racial coalition building. She was also a senior trial attorney for the San Francisco Police Commission Office of Citizen Complaints, and director of the Racial Violence Project at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Chin spent a year as a Skadden Fellow and staff attorney for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights in Boston after receiving her J.D. at Northeastern School of Law and her B.A. at Mills College. Drawn to Boalt by the "possibility of working with the top public interest law school in the country," Chin said that "Boalt is well-positioned to become the standard-bearer of social justice education in a way that will affect the lives of students and impact the field after graduation."

Please join us in welcoming Diane Chin to Boalt! Thursday, March 15, 4:30 p.m. Faculty Lounge

Raven Symposium
“Law’s Violence, Ruptured Community: Justice and Healing for Immigrant Youth”
Lecture: Hearts & Hands: Creating Community in Violent Times
LUI S RODRIGUEZ
March 8-9, 2007

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This colloquium will focus on the latest developments in the community economic development movement and highlight ways for community lawyers to help push for "accountable development." The desire of communities to actually shape what development should look like and to hold developers accountable has the potential to reshape community economic development lawyering. The participants in this colloquium have experience with struggles on the ground in a number of arenas and geographic areas, from the Southeast to the West Coast, and in a number of different contexts and communities. As well as presenting case studies of actual struggles for community economic development, the colloquium participants will reflect together on the themes of race, class, lawyering and organizing that present challenges to this emerging movement. Finally, the participants will use their experience as a springboard for challenging some of the theoretical wisdom about community lawyering in the new century. The colloquium will conclude with a plan to build a network of community lawyers working for economic and racial justice.

Participants will include Bill Simon, Stanford Law School; Tony Alfieri, Director of the Center for Ethics and Public Service at the University of Miami School of Law; Angela Harris and Jeff Selbin, Boalt Hall School of Law; Margareta Lin, East Bay Community Law Center; Scott Cummings, UCLA School of Law; Sheila Foster, Jennifer Gordon, and Brian Glick, Fordham School of Law, and Sameer Ashar, CUNY School of Law, and many of their community partners.

The idea for this colloquium was sparked by a recognition that the strategies and rhetoric often associated with civil rights are no longer successful because of this country’s longstanding lack of interest in structural inequality, the triumph of neoliberalism, the success of conservatives’ attacks on big government and the “welfare state,” and the concomitant rightward turn of the judiciary. As a result, a distinctive type of cause lawyering has emerged that focuses on working with communities to leverage their existing resources to gain access to investment, promoting both internal community mobilization and collaboration with outside institutions to redress economic disparities.

Nina Perales, Southwest Regional Counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) in San Antonio, Texas, directs the organization’s litigation, advocacy and public education in Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona and six additional southern and western states. She will deliver the Ruth Chance Lecture on April 2, 2007 at 12:45-1:45 pm. Perales specializes in voting rights litigation, including redistricting and vote dilution challenges. She served as lead counsel for Latino plaintiffs in the 2001 redistricting cases that secured a Texas House of Representatives redistricting plan with an increase of four Latino-majority districts. Perales was lead counsel for Latino interveners in Arizona in 2003 and successfully defended the Latino-majority Congressional District 4 against an attempt to dismantle it.

Last year, Perales successfully argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in the Latino vote-dilution challenge to the 2003 Texas congressional redistricting plan. In June, 2006 the Court struck down the redistricting plan as a violation of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In addition to her own cases, Ms. Perales supervises the work of five staff attorneys who conduct impact litigation and advocacy throughout the Southwest on behalf of Latinos in the areas of education, immigrant rights, employment discrimination and political access.

Prior to joining MALDEF, Ms. Perales served for five years as Associate Counsel of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York City and Coordinator of MALDEF's Latina Rights Initiative. Perales received her B.A. from Brown University and earned her J.D. from Columbia Law School.
Eric Yamamoto, an internationally renowned law professor at the University of Hawai`i William S. Richardson School of Law, is best known for his legal work and scholarship on civil rights and racial justice, with an emphasis on reparations for historic injustice. In 1984 he served as coram nobis co-counsel to Fred Korematsu in the successful reopening of the infamous WWII Japanese American internment case, Korematsu v. U.S. He worked on the legal team for Manuel Fragante in his accent discrimination case to the U.S. Supreme Court and for Alice Aiwohi in her successful Hawaiian Homelands breach of trust class action resulting in a state reparations settlement of $600 million. He has written amicus briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court, most recently as co-author in the Grutter v. Michigan affirmative action case and the Rasul v. Bush post-9/11 Guantanamo Bay mass detention case, as well as a recent amicus brief to the Ninth Circuit in Doe v. Kamemameha.


In 2001, Professor Yamamoto was awarded the Haywood Burns Chair in Civil Rights for City University of New York Law School. In 1999 he taught as a visiting professor at Boalt. In 2000, Professor Yamamoto received the Rockefeller Foundation’s coveted Residency Fellowship for international justice scholars in Bellagio, Italy. In Fall 2006 he was a featured speaker at an international conference on “Racial Reparations: A Transatlantic Dialogue” in France.

Professor Yamamoto has received eight outstanding law teaching awards, including the University of Hawai`i’s highest award, the 2005 Regents Medal for Teaching Excellence, and the Society of American Law Teachers’ nation-wide award as Outstanding Law Teacher for 2005. He has also received awards for his work on civil rights and social justice. He is a founding member of the Equal Justice Society and has been a member of the Steering Committee of the Campaign to Restore Civil Rights. He speaks regularly across the country and internationally on issues of racial reconciliation, reparations, national security and civil liberties.

Professor Yamamoto will be at Boalt during the week of March 19, 2007, with three of his students, Jason Iokona Baker, Sandra Kim, and Susan Serrano, who have been learning to translate critical justice theory into frontline legal advocacy.

Look for News about Our Exciting Research Initiatives in the May Newsletter

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Walter S. Johnson Foundation for its grant to further the work of the Community University Research and Action for Justice (CURAJ) in the Central Valley.
Amitai Schwartz '72, a distinguished leader in the public interest bar, has recently been awarded the inaugural Angel Award for exceptional commitment to pro bono work by the California Lawyer magazine. Schwartz has donated hundreds of hours of pro bono time to handling federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) cases and advising health care advocacy groups. In recent years, Schwartz has focused on prosecuting ACLU FOIA requests for information regarding the U.S. government's practices in gathering data on American citizens who are Muslim, of Arab descent or war protesters. In 2006, Schwartz won an expedited request in one of the cases, and donated his award of attorney fees to the ACLU.

Schwartz has a J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law and a B.A. cum laude from Brandeis University. Schwartz was the Legal Director of the Northern California Police Practices Project from 1973-1977, staff counsel to the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California from 1977-1985, and a visiting lecturer on Appellate Advocacy at Boalt Hall in 1985. Schwartz has received many prestigious awards including Northern California Super Lawyer in both 2005 and 2006, the Pro Bono Publico Award in 1991 from the American Bar Association, and was a 1995 recipient of the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award. We feel fortunate to recognize Amitai Schwartz as both an honored Boalt alum and a valued member of the Advisory Council.

Lectures are in room 140, Boalt Hall at 12:45-1:45 p.m.

Tuesday, January 16
Patricia Loya, Executive Director, La Raza Centro Legal
“Working for Justice: Strengthening Communities”

Monday, January 29
Lewis Steel, Outten & Golden LLP
“Living Civil Rights Law for Over 40 Years: Working to Keep a Judicial Vision of Equality Alive During Deeply Troubling Times”

Monday, February 12
William Kennedy, Managing Attorney, with Mona Tawatao and Tammi Wong, Legal Services of Northern California
“Putting Race Back on the Table: A Discussion of LSNC’s Race Equity Project”

Monday, February 26
Robert Garcia, former Executive Director, Center for Law in the Public Interest, and Founding Director, The City Project

Monday, March 12
Eva Patterson, President, Equal Justice Society

Monday, April 2
Nina Perales, Regional Counsel, MALDEF

Monday, April 16
Ivor E. Samson, Partner, Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP
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The Boalt Hall Center for Social Justice is a community of faculty, students, lawyers, and advocates committed to fulfilling our nation’s promise of equality for all people. The Center was formed in 1999 to train the next generation of public interest lawyers and to foster a new kind of scholarship that views the law in the broader social context and is both accessible to the public and responsive to the needs of disadvantaged communities. By creating opportunities for academics, lawyers, advocates, and community organizations to work together to both define problems and craft solutions, we endeavor to change the conversation about social justice issues.

CALENDAR OF MAJOR LECTURES AND EVENTS
For more information visit our website at www.law.berkeley.edu/centers/csj

Monday, February 26
12:45-1:45 PM
140 Boalt Hall
Ruth Chance Lecture
Robert Garcia, former Executive Director, Center for Law in the Public Interest, and Founding Director, The City Project

Wednesday, February 28
4:00 PM
Goldberg Room
Town Hall on Class Privilege

Thursday, March 8
4:00 PM
Booth Auditorium
ROBERT D. AND LESLIE-KAY RAVEN LECTURE ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE
Responder: Jeff Adachi

Friday, March 9
9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Goldberg Room
Spring 2007 Symposium
Law’s Violence, Ruptured Community: Justice and Healing for Immigrant Youth

Monday, March 12
12:45-1:45 PM
140 Boalt Hall
Ruth Chance Lecture
Eva Patterson, President, Equal Justice Society

Tuesday, March 20
12:45-1:45 PM
100 Boalt Hall
Scholar-in-Residence Eric Yamamoto
University of Hawaii at Manoa
William S. Richardson School of Law

Wednesday, March 21
4:00 PM
Goldberg Room
Town Hall on Gender Privilege

Monday, April 2
12:45-1:45 PM
140 Boalt Hall
Practitioner-in-Residence Nina Perales,
Regional Counsel, MALDEF San Antonio
Ruth Chance Lecture

Monday April 2
12:45-1:45
Room 140
Panel Discussion with Nina Perales

Tuesday April 3
4:00-6:00
Morison Foerster Room
Colloquium on Community Lawyering for Economic Development in the 21st Century

Friday, April 6
Goldberg Room
Ruth Chance Lecture
Ivor Samson, Partner, Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP

Monday, April 16
12:45-1:45 PM
140 Boalt Hall
Ruth Chance Lecture

Do you want to receive monthly updates of the Center’s upcoming events and lectures? The Center for Social Justice now has a email newsletter. Sign up on our website at www.law.berkeley.edu/centers/csj